

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
January 24 – 25, 2007
Department of Agriculture Conference Room

Members Present:

Spencer Ellis, President
Jack Corson, Vice President
Helen Jones
Lee Otto
Jim Mickelson
Gene Hardy
David Graham
Patrick Zimmerer
Emily Horton
Dalin Winters
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture

Members Absent:

David Largent
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture
Ryan Lance, Governor Freudenthal's Office

WDA Staff Present:

Muff Parker, Recording Secretary
Jason Fearneyhough, Deputy Director

Meeting was called to order by President Ellis.

Designated and Declared Weed & Pest Lists

Helen made a motion to add Russian Olive to the Designated Weed and Pest List and sign the joint resolution as presented by the Weed and Pest Council. Seconded by Jim Mickelson. Motion carried. Gene Hardy made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented by the Weed and Pest Council for the Declared Weed and Pest List. Seconded by Helen. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Helen Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings. Seconded by Dave Graham. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion

Julie presented a draft budget she prepared based on the use of past funding. She will change it to whatever the board feels they need. She explained what, how and when line items can be moved.

John discussed listing of the Prairie Dog as a predator. There is a bill up for consideration to make it a predator. He asked the board for comments and after receiving feedback, followed up by asking for their support in testifying against the bill. Gene felt it would place additional burdens on the predatory animal districts. **Lee Otto mad a motion to support John in testifying against the bill. Jim seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

In-stream flow

John Barnes, Jeff Gier and Pat Tyrrell from the Engineer's Office came to talk about a couple of the bills in the legislature regarding in-stream flow. SF 28 allows for the ability of temporary water

rights to be protected for non-consumptive use. The bill transfers the temporary rights to the state. There is a question as to how many temporary permits will be issued before abandonment is considered. There is protection to allow for a permit to not be used against the landowner if it is used for water for highway use in building roads, as an example. They don't want to penalize the landowner for helping them out.

HB 51 allows landowners to permit without state involvement. The bill has not been heard by committee, yet.

Legislation

John answered the boards' questions regarding the bills and Dani Sullivan explained where each bill was in the process.

State Fair

James Goodrich introduced himself to the board as the new director of State Fair. Jack proposed the question to him regarding the relationship between the board, the advisory board and himself. He was not able to answer because he felt further communication between all would have to happen first, but indicated that they would all have to work together to produce a good State Fair. Gene Hardy asked what it would take to improve the quality of the rodeo. Jason and Vicki have already visited with the stock contractors to make them aware of the problem. He would like to see a better campaign ad program to encourage attendance. They may look into having one high school rodeo and one professional rodeo. Gene asked about the fees charged to youth when using the facilities. John Etechpare said the cost included the additional cost of insurance. There will be an interim study to review State Fair Park to include rental fees and insurance requirements. The study will also be looking at all of State Fair Park. The buildings are under capitol construction for major maintenance money. Jack also wanted to know how James is going to deal with animal issues. James said they would try to hear all sides of the issue. It helps to have back-up such as the vets, 4-H and FFA leaders to present the facts. He also feels if people are heard, they are more willing to live with the decision made. In regards to the tail docking issue, James indicate the club lamb producers say they can live with 2-plus caudal vertebrae, but cannot live with three. The other issue with the current policy is that when x-rayed at the end of the show there may not be a grand champion. He feels moving the show back as an education tool with minimize the tail docking issue.

Upcoming meeting date changes

Mickelson made a motion to change the following dates; Conference call slated for March 21, 2007 moved to March 20; eliminate July 4 conference call; only have a one-day meeting during State Fair, which will be August 17, 2007; and to leave the September 24 and 25, 2007 date alone unless James lets the board know when the "after state fair" advisory meeting is scheduled. Seconded by Corson. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Conservation District Appointment

Jones made a motion to appointment Mathew Dockery to the at-large position to the Niobrara Conservation District. Seconded by Mickelson. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

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Review of Strategic Plan

Mary Randolph facilitated the review with the board. Some changes were made and when Mary makes them, she will send the final document to the members.

Seed Lab Rules

Roy Reichenbach reviewed the new rules for seed pricing. He indicated the Governor's attorney

didn't think the board has the authority to set two charges for in-state and out-of-state. **Hardy made a motion to accept the price list and rules as presented. Seconded by Mickelson. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Russian Olive Project

Mike Sarchet was unable to make his presentation, but sent the video to Slade, which the members watched.

Board recognition

John Etchepare presented Lee Otto, Helen Jones and Spencer Ellis with a clock plaque recognizing their four years of service on the board. He was very appreciative of the sacrifices each has made to be able to do the outstanding jobs they had done.

Members talked among themselves about a variety of issues and said goodbye to the three members leaving them.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Corson, President

Date

Attachment:

Attendance sheet

Joint resolutions for:

Designated Weed and Pest List

Declared Weed and Pest List

Conservation District Appointment

Seed Lab pricing rules